Some comments on the proposed antitrust settlement.

I do not compete with MicroSoft at this time. I design computer hardware, rather than software. I have done computer design from the time that the IBM antitrust suit was in the federal court system.

I think the settlement offers little if any relief to the platiffs.
 MicroSoft is a monopoly, as already determined by the courts. MicroSoft needs to provide all documentation on its software to ISV (Independent Software Vendors). This information should be made available under the following conditions:

A reasonable fee for the documents is to be set by an independent entity
No criteria is to be set by MicroSoft regarding who can recieve these documents
This information should be available to ISVs at the same time MicroSoft starts development
All OS features must have clearly defined interfaces
MicroSoft must fix all bugs determined to be a problem by an independent entity.
MicroSoft must continue support for bug fixes for at least 5 years following product release
This is for all reported bugs in the first 5 years
Bug fixes are completed when the problem is solved as determined by an independent entity

Innovation at MicroSoft is primarily in the form of new ways to destroy competition. Some examples include:
OS changes to Windows to prevent the correct function of Word Perfect.
OS changes to Windows to prevent the correct function of Borland C and C++
OS changes to Windows to prevent the correct function of PC Tools by Central Point Software
OS changes to Windows to prevent the correct function of Netscape
OS changes to Windows to prevnet the correct function of Paradox
OS changes to Windows to prevent the correct function of Quatro Pro
And the list goes on and on and on and on .....

So that is how MicroSoft became a monopoly, plus IBM put them in that position.

I have not noticed any real innovation to the MicroSoft OS that was not copied in some form from existing successful software. If you know of a place where they innovated I would be interested in hearing about it.
 Windows itself in nothing more than an imiitation of what Xerox did with

their Star system back in the early 80's.

The main problem I have with MicroSoft is that their software is full of bugs. They have no incentive to fix it, as happy customers might not buy the next release.

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